

CLASSIFICATION/SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 20 Dec 1952

SUBJECT Factors Governing Oil Sales

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REPORT

DATE OF INFORMATION

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE DS-506, Soviet male, born September 1919, engineer in the Soviet Merchant Fleet, who defected on 14 Mar 52 due to dissatisfaction with Soviet restrictions on personal freedom. Before graduation from a technical institute in Odessa in 1945, he had worked in 1941 and 1942 as a...

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2. The document is signed by the captains of the participating barges and tankers.
3. The barges of Reyd tanker proceed to the piers of the Astrakhan oil bases for unloading, but before pumping operations commence the volume of water content is determined. If the water content is too high, a document (akt) is drawn up fixing responsibility for the high water content and assessing a fine for payment by the agency at fault. However, in no case are the shipments ever refused. Generally Kasptanker is fined more frequently than Reyd tanker because the vessels of the latter agency are in better condition.
4. A third document for delivery (priem sdatochnyy akt) is drafted when the products are unloaded. The transportation charges are paid by NefteSbyt officials at Astrakhan on separate bills presented by Kasptanker and Reyd tanker.

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5. The unloading facilities at Astrakhan are owned and operated by Volgatanker which has a total fleet of about forty floating pumps, of which approximately twenty-five are located at Astrakhan. Unloading costs of Tuymazy crude at the oil bases of NefteSoyt in Astrakhan are charged to the base as are the costs of pumping oil from the bases to the vessels of Reydtanker. Thus the NefteSoyt bases in Astrakhan pay for all loading and unloading operations. In the case of shipments from Astrakhan to Makhaoh Kala, the officials of the latter port pay the freight charges to Reydtanker.
6. A rating certificate (passport) is needed in the transfer of petroleum products to consumers outside of the Chief Directorate of Oil Sales, but when the transfers are made to activities within the chief directorate such a certificate is unnecessary.
7. There are no military representatives at either Astrakhan or Baku, nor are there any military storage facilities at either port.
8. There are definitely no pipelines running north from Astrakhan and the complete jurisdiction over and responsibility for petroleum movements northward resides in Volgatanker.

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